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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Junichi NAKANO et al.

Application No.: 10/511,303

Filed: October 15, 2004

For: IMPACT-ABSORBING STEERING COLUMN APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 3616

Examiner: J. ROCCA

Docket No.: 121457

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

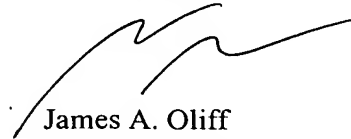
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 1-4.
- ☒ 3. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

- ☒ 4. Reference 2 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,673,937 which was cited by the Examiner in the January 4, 2007 Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 20, 2007

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121457APPLICATION NO.
10/511,303

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)
Junichi NAKANO et al.FILING DATE
October 15, 2004GROUP
3616

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name
	1	6,322,103 B1	11/27/2001	LI ET AL.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation
	2	EP 0 655 383 A1	05/31/1995	EUROPE		
	3	FR 2 708 551 A1	02/10/1995	FRANCE		
	4	GB 1 497 275	01/05/1978	UNITED KINGDOM		

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: February 20, 2007